

Shannon/Kiser Building (Commercial Building)
313-315 North Wayne Street
Piqua
Miami County
Ohio

HABS No. OH-2275

HABS
OHIO,
50. PIQUA,
2 -

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
MID-ATLANTIC REGION, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19106

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

SHANNON/KISER Building (Commercial Building)

HABS No. OH-2275

Location: 313-315 North Wayne Street
Piqua
Miami County
Ohio

Present Owner: City of Piqua, Ohio

Present Occupant: Vacant

Present Use: Vacant

Statement of

Significance:

This three story brick structure was built in 1913-14 as one of the community's first medical office buildings. The structure functioned as offices for physicians and dentists from 1914 until 1948-1951. Law, volunteer, and insurance offices occupied the building until 1985 when it was purchased by the City of Piqua. The use of this structure for a variety of office functions conforms to the typical twentieth century pattern of Piqua's downtown buildings.

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History of the Shannon/Kiser Building

Dr. Robert M. Shannon purchased the north section of lot number sixty one in April of 1912. The empty lot on North Wayne Street had formerly been used by Fred B. Meckstroth as a workyard for his blacksmith shop. Shannon erected the three story brick office in 1913-1914. During this period the majority of Piqua's physicians maintained offices within or very near to their homes. Shannon's medical building in the business district was a relatively unusual departure.

Shannon and Dr. Wilbur H. Munger, a local dentist, moved into the structure in 1914. The third floor was rented out as a single apartment. Dr. Shannon died in June of 1918, and in July of that year his widow sold his practice, equipment, and medical building to Dr. Isaac C. Kiser of Fletcher, Ohio. Dr. Kiser took over the ground floor office and continued his practice there until his death in 1945. Dr. Munger maintained his second floor dental office until his death in 1952.

In December of 1951, Dr. Kiser's widow sold the building to local attorney James H. DeWeese. The DeWeese Law Offices took over the ground floor and after Dr. Munger's death remodeled the former dental office into a second apartment. In 1964, the law firm moved next door to 311 North Wayne and the American Cancer Society (Miami County Unit) moved into the ground floor offices.

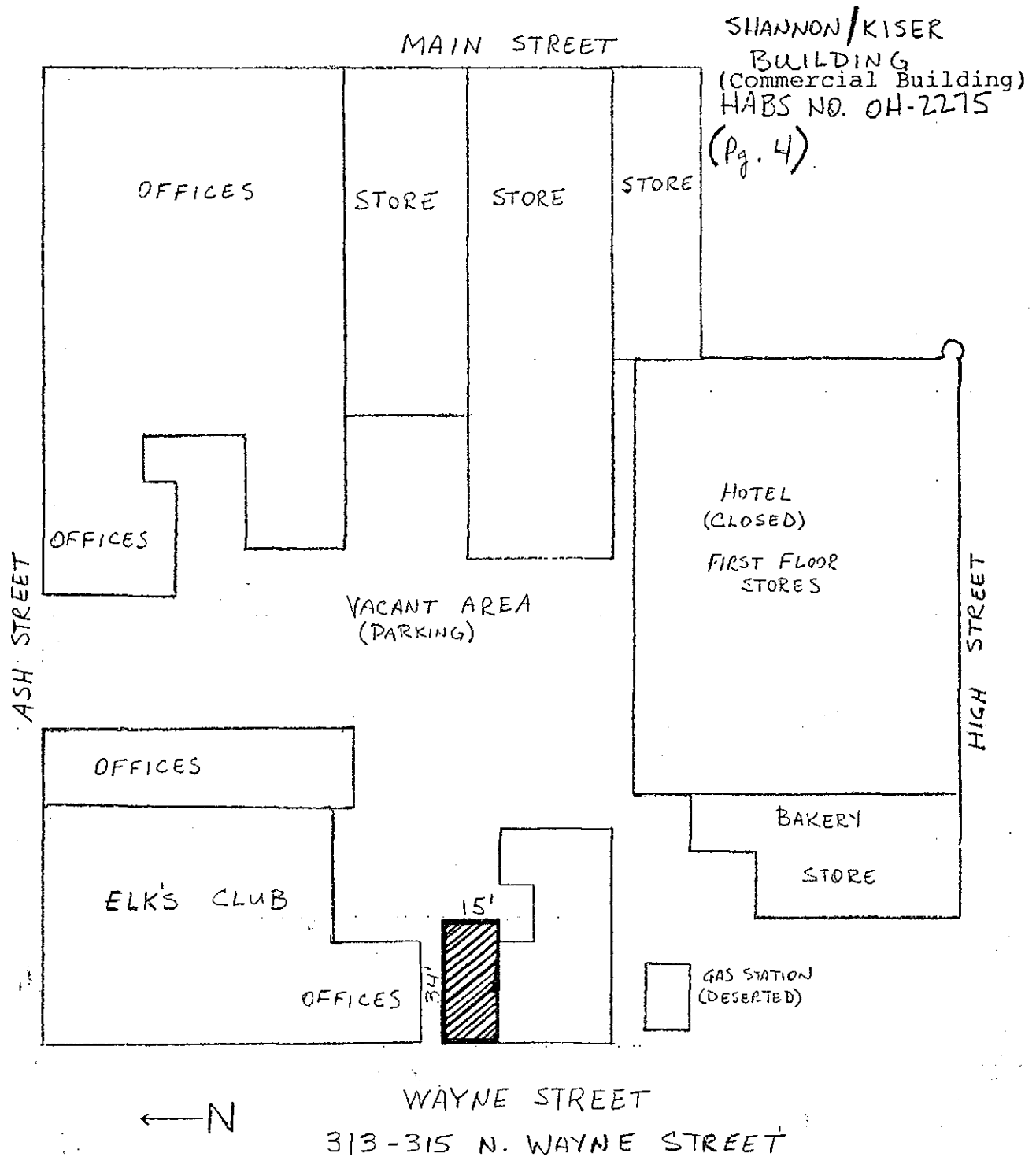
The Cancer Society left Piqua in 1972 and the ground floor remained vacant for several years. In 1975, John F. Bertke, an insurance agent for the State Farm Insurance Company, moved into the ground floor offices. The property was purchased by the City of Piqua in 1985 and in 1987 was vacant.

This three story pressed brick structure is located one block west of the city's traditional business district. The relatively plain original brick facade is relieved only by a decorative projecting cornice and brackets and a modified mission style roof parapet.

The structure has experienced three major alterations since it was erected in 1913-14. The first occurred in 1918-19 when the Central Union Telephone Company erected a brick structure directly abutting on the south side of 313-315 North Wayne Street. At this time all of the windows on the south side of the structure were bricked up. The second major alteration occurred when the second story apartment was created in 1952-53 and two windows on the north side of the structure were blocked up. The third and last alteration occurred in 1975-76 when the Wayne Street entrance was remodeled by the State Farm Insurance Agency with wide-board framing, a picture window and a wooden shingled pseudo-mansard overhang. With the exception of these major changes the rest of the building appears to retain its original walls and openings.

The material for this narrative was obtained from the Archives and Special Collections of the Flish Public Library, Piqua Ohio, and the Miami County Recorder's Office, Miami County Safety Building, Troy, Ohio. The Archives and Special Collections in Piqua contained microfilm copies of the Piqua Daily Call (June 14, 1918 and June 25, 1918), Piqua City Directories (1911-1986), and Piqua City Telephone Directories (1911-1986). The Miami County Recorder's Office in Troy provided deed transactions from 1912 until 1985.

Additional searches for historic photographs or drawings were made at the Piqua Historical Society (Piqua, Ohio), Miami County Historical Society (Troy, Ohio) and the Ohio Historical Society (Columbus, Ohio).



BASEMENT
ENTRANCE

SHANNON/KISER
Bldg.
(Commercial Building)
HABS NO. 04-2275

(Pg. 5)

COVERED
↓ OVER ↓

RADIATOR

COVERED
OVER

SINK

COVERED
OVER

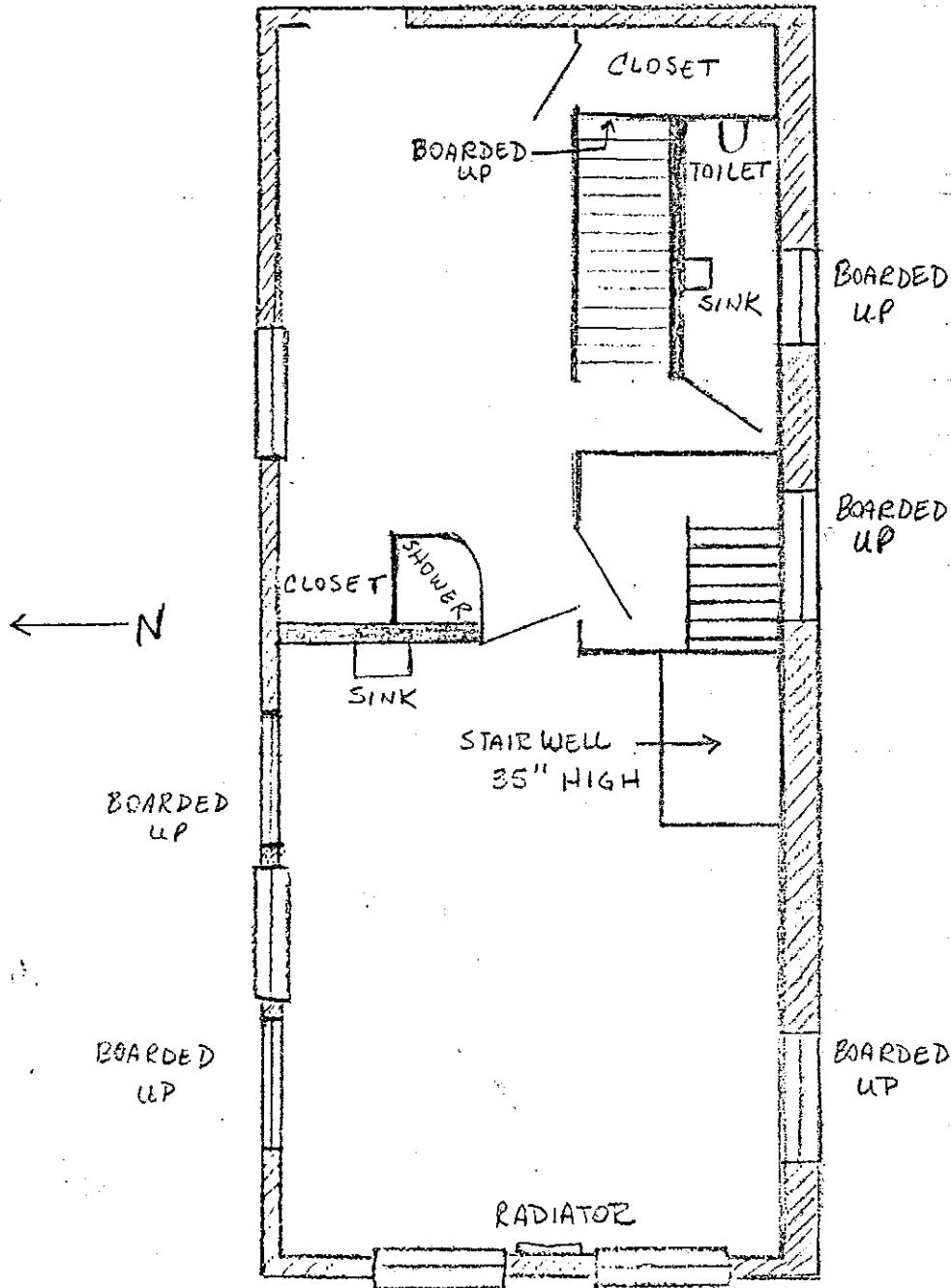
TOILET

RADIATOR

← N

313-315 N. WAYNE STREET
FIRST FLOOR
15' X 34'

Shannon/Kiser Building
(Commercial Building)
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313-315 N. WAYNE STREET
SECOND FLOOR
15' x 34'

Shannon/Kiser Building
(Commercial Building)
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